

Upon notice duly given under Arizona Revised Statutes, Section 38-431, et seq., as amended, the City Council of the City of Bullhead City held a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, July 5, 2022, in the City Council Chambers, 1255 Marina Boulevard, Bullhead City, Arizona.

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Brady called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and delivered the invocation. Council Member Wegmann led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Council Present

Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Wegmann

Council Absent

None

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY ATTORNEY: Garnet Emery

CITY CLERK: Susan Stein

POLICE CAPTAIN: Jason Harms

FINANCE DIRECTOR: Rudy Vera

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: Angie Johnson (absent)

UTILITIES DIRECTOR: Mark R. Clark

HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR: Jeff Tipton

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR: Saritti Chooniyom

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

None

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Brady opened the call to the public.

Harvey Pryor asked for random drug testing on executive staff members and a public police report once per month. He asked if the Council Members took a boater safety course. He said there were cracks in the walls of the Council Chambers.

Regina Guarisco thanked the city for all they had done to keep the river safe over the 4th of July weekend. She said reckless behavior needed to be controlled and suggested implementing warning signals for alerting the people on shore.

Shawn Reagan said his father received a combined water/sewer bill that he could not afford to pay. He said he was told this was a landlord/tenant issue, and said he was not pleased with the city's response.

Vincent Robula from Bullhead Jet Ski Rentals thanked the city for all it had done to keep the river safe, including the wrist band program.

Nick Parsons requested the city look into partnering with businesses to provide secure places for e-bicycles to park when visiting local establishments.

Julie Hassett provided information on the upcoming 46th season of the Colorado River Concert Association's performances that begin on November 9th.

Eva Corbett provided information on the 78th Annual Republican Picnic to be held on July 16th.

Billy Pershing invited the public to attend the Tea Party Patriots meeting on July 9th at the Republican Headquarters.

Scotty McClure suggested imposing fines for having glass on the beaches. He said the city should work towards changing state law to a higher legal age for operating Arizona watercraft. He said more handicapped parking spaces were needed at Safeway, and said he was against the Council receiving a cost of living adjustment.

Dr. Waheed Zehri thanked the city for keeping the river safe over the weekend. He asked if the city could look into anything that might have been missed in order to prevent accidents at the swim beach.

Emily Dotter said she had a problem with a vote that was taken at the last meeting after the power went out, and said Council Members should participate in meetings in person. She discussed some problems with reckless jet skis operating in the channel.

Having no one else present wishing to speak, Mayor Brady closed the call to the public.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

None

WAIVER MOTION

MOTION: Council Member Wegmann made a motion to waive the reading in full of all ordinances and resolutions presented for adoption at this meeting. Council Member D'Amico seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Police Report on Fireworks Response

City Manager Cotter read a press release regarding a watercraft-related accident that occurred on July 4th. He read river-related statistics from the police department and beach security from the holiday weekend.

Captain Jason Harms provided the 4th of July statistics on firework calls and recoveries.

2. Bridge Update

City Manager Cotter provided aerial drone footage on the construction of the new bridge. He said the new road on the Laughlin side was now being graded.

3. Caddisfly Update and Colorado River Low Flows

City Manager Cotter said reduced river flows would occur on July 19th and August 16th to combat the nuisance caddisfly population.

4. Glass in City Parks

City Manager Cotter said people continued to bring glass into city parks and the beaches. He said 179 citations were issued for glass last weekend. He said the city sent a letter to the business community requesting that glass beer bottles be put in the back of the stores. He said they would monitor this for a few weeks to determine if this effort was effective.

5. Southwest Gas Kiosk in City Hall Lobby

City Manager Cotter said the payment kiosk would be installed in the lobby at City Hall within the next few weeks.

6. Short-Term Rental Legislation

City Manager Cotter said the City Council recently held a workshop on short term rentals. He said Arizona law did not allow the city to ban short term rentals. He said Senate Bill 1168 passed the House and was adopted by the Senate, and was now sitting on the Governor's desk. He said if signed, the bill would become effective in September. He read some language in the bill that could help provide more authority with future city regulations.

7. Splash Pad Grand Reopening

City Manager Cotter played a video of the Kiwanis Splash Pad Reopening at Ken Fovargue Park.

8. Early Voting starts July 6th

City Clerk Stein provided information on early voting for the August 2, 2022, primary election.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS ON CURRENT EVENTS

Council Member Hecht thanked Murphy Broadcasting, Laughlin Tourism, and the Avi Casino for the fireworks presentations. She said she talked to many local people on the beaches over the weekend, and said they were appreciative of the community's efforts in making the area safer. She thanked the members of the community for making the Fisherman's wall mural happen.

Council Member D'Amico said people on Facebook were accusing the Council of caring more about the revenue than the people. He said that was the farthest from the truth, and said their ears were always open for more ideas on improving river safety.

ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member D'Amico made a motion that Items No. 1 and 2 on the Consent Agenda be approved in accordance with the reports, certifications and recommendations furnished each Council Member and without further discussion. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

Items on the Consent Agenda were approved as follows:

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on June 21, 2022; and the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on June 21, 2022. (City Clerk Stein)
2. Adoption of Resolution No. 2022R-41 appointing and directing City Finance Director Rudy Vera to submit the Annual Expenditure Limitation Report to the Arizona Auditor General. (Finance Director Vera)

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

3. Discussion and possible action to appoint a citizen to serve on the Bullhead City Board of Adjustment for a two-year term beginning immediately upon Council approval and expiring on June 30, 2024. (City Clerk Stein)

City Manager Cotter said there was one applicant to fill one seat.

MOTION: Council Member Wegmann made a motion to appoint Juleen White to serve on the Bullhead City Board of Adjustment for a two-year term beginning immediately upon Council approval and expiring on June 30, 2024. Council Member Hecht seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D’Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS

None

ACTION ITEMS

Building, Planning and Zoning Items

None

Bid Awards, Contracts, Intergovernmental Agreement, and Purchases

4. Discussion and possible action to approve a contribution for the Laughlin/Bullhead Airshow in an amount not to exceed \$75,000, contingent upon funds to be held in reserve by the Airport Authority, matching funds contributed by the Laughlin Tourism Commission, and the City Manager’s approval of a cooperation agreement between the stakeholders outlining the duties of the stakeholders, the timing and conditions of payment of and/or return of the city funds as may be necessary. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said the Laughlin /Bullhead City International Airport was planning to host an Airshow on April 1, 2023. He said the event would include an aerial display of military and civilian aircrafts, while honoring the history of aviation and paying respect to those who have sacrificed and served the nation. He said the Airshow would be planned and administered by the Laughlin/Bullhead Airshow Planning Committee. He said the committee was led by the Laughlin/Bullhead City International Airport Director Jeremy Keating and included various partners and stakeholders from the area, including city staff. He said the city’s contribution would be matched by the Laughlin Tourism Commission and the funds would go toward primary event expenses.

Airport Director Jeremy Keating said the planning committee’s mission was to put on a highly entertaining event for local residents and visitors. He said \$150,000 was required to put on an airshow. He said the funds would be used toward the event expenses including commitments necessary to schedule the aircraft and pilots.

Council Member Lizarraga asked about available parking for the event.

Council Member D’Amico asked about the entry fee for the event.

Airport Director Keating said entry to the event would be free, and said parking and shuttle locations would be addressed and coordinated in the near future.

Council Member Wegmann asked how the Chamber partners would participate in the event.

Laughlin Chamber Director Jackie Wallin said the Laughlin Chamber would not be contributing any funds, but said they would assist the Laughlin Tourism Commission in the management of the funds. She said there would also be a festival on the airport grounds, involving as many non-profits as possible. She shared demographics on air show attendance.

Bullhead Area Chamber of Commerce Director Bo Hellams said the Chamber was assisting in the same manner as the Laughlin Chamber, continuing to enhance the city and using their experience and energy into making the show successful.

Council Member Hecht asked if the committee considered expanding the show to an entire weekend.

Ms. Wallin said they would market the event to celebrate freedom, and said they were looking to expand the event for more days.

Mr. Hellams said they depended on the consultant to guide the show.

Mayor Brady asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak.

Harvey Pryor spoke in support of the event. He suggested including exotic and fast cars as an additional attraction.

Nick Parsons spoke in support of the event. He said the turbulence might be an issue during the windy months, and asked if there was a backup plan.

Shawn Reagan spoke in support of the event, and said it would be a positive benefit for the community.

Regina Guarisco spoke in support of the event. She provided comments on parking, shuttle service and trash receptacles for the event.

Dr. Waheed Zehri commented about the city's budget allocation for the event, and spoke in support of the event.

Scotty McClure suggested using the school district buses for the shuttle service, charging fees to cover expenses, and make a profit.

MOTION: Council Member D'Amico made a motion to approve a contribution for the Laughlin/Bullhead Airshow in an amount not to exceed \$75,000, contingent upon funds to be held in reserve by the Airport Authority, matching funds contributed by the Laughlin Tourism Commission, and the City Manager's approval of a cooperation agreement between the stakeholders outlining the duties of the stakeholders, the timing and conditions of payment of and/or return of the city funds as may be necessary. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D’Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Wegmann
 NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

Other Business

5. Discussion and possible action to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-24 approving a Code Amendment to Chapter 9.24, Fireworks, Title 9, Public Peace, Morals, and Welfare, of the Bullhead City Municipal Code, entitled “Fireworks Amendments 2022;” and adopt Resolution No. 2022R-42 declaring the code amendment a public record. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said Senate Bill 1275 expanded the authority of cities to further restrict the use of consumer fireworks to certain hours of the day. He said the authority already existed, and was previously enacted by the city that restricted the use of fireworks to set days during the year. He said this amendment resulted in limiting fireworks from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. during the authorized days, but except for 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. on July 4th and 5th, and December 31st and January 1st. He said the changes would become effective concurrently with the statute authorizing the expansion on September 24, 2022. He said consumer fireworks did not include traditional firecrackers or launchable fireworks, which continued to be illegal for consumer use.

Mayor Brady asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak.

Harvey Pryor said he was under the impression that fireworks were allowed on Indian tribal land in Mohave County. He said adjoining communities that assisted in fireworks-related fire suppression should charge a high response fee. He suggested using drones to locate where illegal fireworks were set off.

MOTION: **Council Member Wegmann made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-24 approving a Code Amendment to Chapter 9.24, Fireworks, Title 9, Public Peace, Morals, and Welfare, of the Bullhead City Municipal Code, entitled “Fireworks Amendments 2022;” and adopt Resolution No. 2022R-42 declaring the code amendment a public record. Council Member Lizarraga seconded the motion.**

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D’Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Wegmann
 NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

6. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. 2022R-43 approving the application and receipt of a WaterSMART Drought Response Program Grant from the Bureau of Reclamation in an amount not to exceed \$2 million as a city cost share. (City Manager Cotter)

Assistant to the City Manager Edigar Kajirwa said the city had applied for the program grant as another funding opportunity. He said staff was seeking support to finalize an application for the

city's reuse water infrastructure project, which consisted of improving pipelines that conveyed recycled wastewater to areas north of the Section 10 wastewater treatment plant for reuse in city and community irrigation needs. He said this item was not budgeted in this fiscal year, and would be included in the next fiscal year's budget.

Council Member Hecht asked where reuse water was used.

Utilities Director Clark said reuse water was used in several locations throughout the city; such as Palo Verde, Laughlin Ranch, and Chaparral Golf course. He said the current piping was exposed to the sun and needed to be replaced.

Mayor Brady asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak.

Harvey Pryor asked why the water lines were not taken care of in the past, and said the reason was due to lack of maintenance and care. He said he wanted to see photos of the projects that Council was discussing, and asked how the Council could make decisions without reviewing the information and seeing pictures.

City Manager Cotter said pictures were provided to the Council and the public during budget sessions, work sessions, and regular meetings. He said they would continue to do that; contrary to what the previous speaker had said. He said this grant application was forward thinking in order for the city to have a sustainable future.

Billy Pershing asked about the percent of water that was effluent, and effluent water rates.

City Manager Cotter said Laughlin Ranch was the only effluent user currently, and the rate was 46 cents per 1,000 gallons.

Dr. Waheed Zehri asked if this project was included in the water master plan.

Utilities Director Clark said the project would be included in the next wastewater master plan.

MOTION: Council Member Lizarraga made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022R-43 approving the application and receipt of a WaterSMART Drought Response Program Grant from the Bureau of Reclamation in an amount not to exceed \$2 million as a city cost share. Council Member Hecht seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

COUNCIL REQUESTED ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct record of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Bullhead City held on the 5th day of July 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 19th day of July 2022.

Susan Stein, MMC, CPM
Susan Stein, MMC, CPM
City Clerk